

WITH TODAY'S ISSUE

Star
Showbiz



HOLE IN THE SOUL

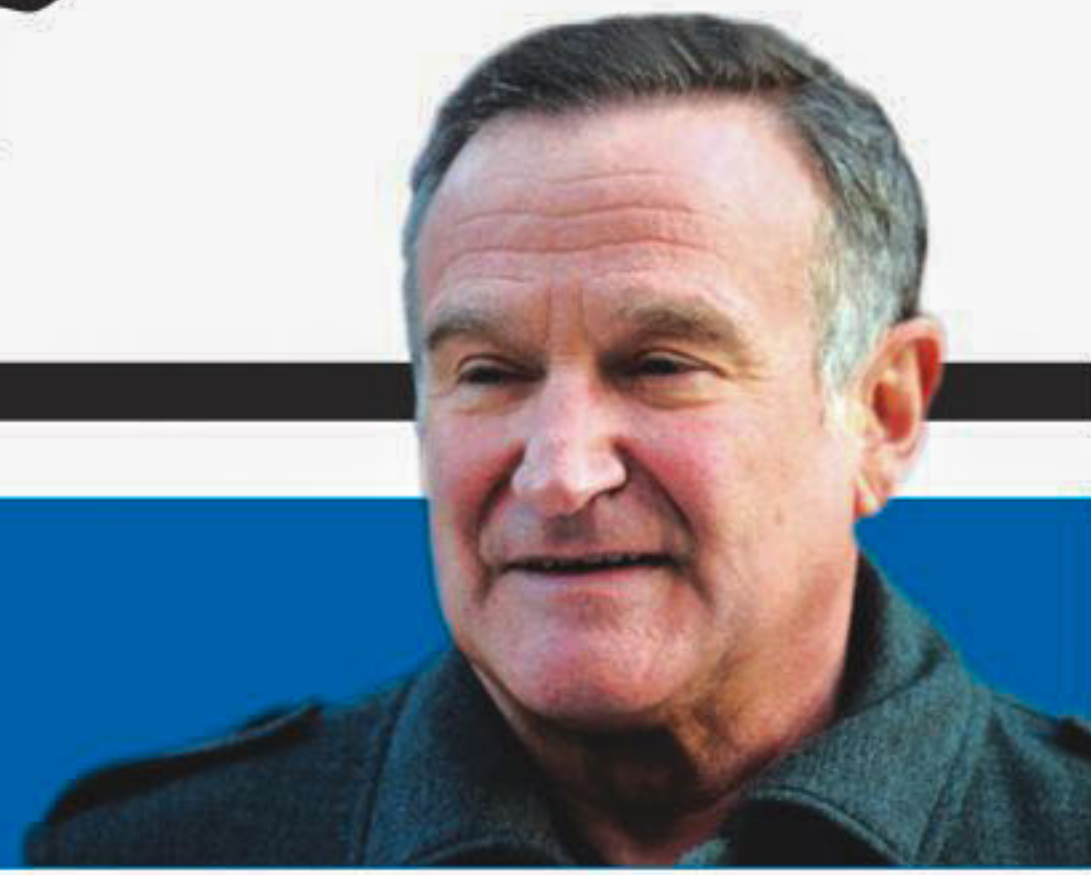
Have we turned hypocrisy into manners?

PAGE 6

HE HAD PARKINSON'S

Robin Williams was suffering from early stages of the disease, reveals wife

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Pinak-6 lacked safety gears

Helper, greaser were piloting the launch; Shipping Dept allowed it knowingly

TAWFIQUE ALI

The Department of Shipping allowed Pinak-6 to carry passengers even though the vessel neither had a pilot nor an engine driver, according to documents.

The 65-horsepower Pinak-6 launch had to have a certified third-class pilot and an engine driver, according to inland shipping rules.

But a *sukani*, an assistant to a pilot, was at the helm of the overcrowded launch in a turbulent Padma and the tragic disaster claimed the lives of more than 100 people on August 4.

A greaser, whose job was to grease the engine, was in charge of running the engine when the vessel went down.

Almost all 86 similar vessels that ply the Mawa-Kawrakandi route in the Padma have been running like this for years on end, placing the lives of thousands of people at risk, said a top official of DOS requesting anonymity.

Though mandatory for a trip, the vessel also lacked a stability certificate and a construction supervision certificate by a naval architect validating that it was built as per design, said official sources.

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Pinak-6 had only 10 lifebuoys and not a single life jacket

Dubious fitness certificates issued to the vessel three times

Almost all launches of Mawa-Kawrakandi route plying without certified master, driver



Floral wreaths placed by the president, the prime minister and socio-political leaders and organisations at the mural of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman opposite to the historic Dhanmondi-32 house on the occasion of National Mourning Day yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

PEACE INDEX Bangladesh 98th among 162 countries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has fared better than India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in the Global Peace Index 2014.

Bangladesh is ranked 98th on the list of 162 countries, a significant improvement from last year's position of 105th.

Put together by the Institute for Economics and Peace, the GPI takes into consideration three broad themes

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PEACE IN S ASIA

| COUNTRY | RANK |
|------------|------|
| Bhutan | 16 |
| Nepal | 76 |
| Bangladesh | 98 |
| Sri Lanka | 105 |
| India | 143 |
| Pakistan | 154 |

Homage paid to Bangabandhu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The nation yesterday observed the National Mourning Day marking the 39th anniversary of the assassination of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with a call to bring back his fugitive killers and execute them.

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid glowing tributes to the father of the nation at Bangabandhu Bhaban on Road 32 in Dhanmondi by placing wreaths in the first hour of the day as part of the state programmes.

After placing the wreaths at 6:32am, they stood in solemn silence there for some time as a mark of profound respect to the memories of Bangabandhu and the martyrs of August 15.

A contingent of the Armed Forces gave a state salute and bugle played the last post.

Later, prayers were offered seeking eternal peace for Bangabandhu and the other martyrs.

Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain, cabinet members, chiefs of three services and senior leaders of ruling Awami League and 14-party combine were present.

After paying tribute as the president of AL at the portrait of Bangabandhu along with her party leaders, Hasina and her family members visited Banani Graveyard and paid homage to her mother Bangamata Fazilatunnesa Mujib, her brothers Sheikh Kamal, Sheikh Jamal and Sheikh Russell and other martyrs.

The daughter of Bangabandhu later went to Tungipara to pay homage to her father. After placing a wreath at the grave,

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How Gen Zia took the helm of army

As biggest beneficiary of Aug 15, he became chief martial law administrator, and finally, president



Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman speaks at the inauguration of Comilla Military Academy in 1973. Maj Gen Ziaur Rahman, then deputy chief of army staff, is standing, right, behind Bangabandhu.

PHOTO: FILE

SHAKHAWAT LITON

It was around noon on August 24, 1975. The situation was volatile. Lt Col MA Hamid was in a meeting at his Dhaka Cantonment office. The phone rang. He picked it up. General Ziaur Rahman was on the other side of the phone.

"Hamid, come here just now," Gen Zia asked him in an excited voice.

"Will it be okay if I come after some time?" asked Hamid, a close friend and course mate of Zia.

"Shut up, come right now," asserted Zia, deputy chief of army staff.

Hamid, station commander of Dhaka Cantonment, finished his meeting without delay and rushed to Zia's office.

"Salute [me] properly you Guffy, you are

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SC judges were disloyal to charter

The then chief justice Sayem became president, CMLA; Mahmud and others upheld martial law regulations

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The constitution had empowered the Speaker to administer the oath of office to the president. But the disgruntled army officers who assassinated Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on August 15, 1975 might have had less confidence in Abdul Malek Ukil.

They turned to the acting chief justice, Syed ABM Mahmud Hossain.

Justice Hossain, who was bound by an oath to defend the constitution, did not frustrate the killers. He administered the presidential oath to Khondokar Moshtaque Ahmed on the afternoon of August 15, 1975.

Five days later, Moshtaque issued a martial law proclamation on August 20 and amended the constitution to authorise the chief justice to administer the presidential oath.

He also suspended the provision which asked for electing new president through direct polls if the post fell vacant. As per the provision, vice-president was to act as the president in the absence of the latter. If the vice-president was unable, the Speaker will assume the role.

When Moshtaque amended and suspended the constitutional provisions, parliament still existed. And none but parliament had the authority to make any change in the charter.

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A road near the capital's Hatirjheel-FDC intersection has been left in an extremely bad shape following digging for Moghbazar-Mouchak flyover. Instead of carrying out repairs, the potholes developed during the work have been filled with chunks of concrete making the road bumpy. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

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